

Reader Letters

I have been deluged with requests for information on how I operate my diesel-engine powered vehicles with vegetable oil fuel. Would you please inform your readers that I do not have any prepared summary reports or literature to send them. Nor am I able to personally answer each of the many letters I have received. Much of the work I am performing with vegetable oils for fuel is proprietary in nature. If you want to use a vegetable oil to fuel a diesel engine, use an oil with an iodine value of 100 or less.

Hugh E. Whitted, III
P. O. Box 44A
Route 2
East Bend, N.C. 27108

I was very pleased to see the coverage your magazine recently gave to methane production. It is very important that information on this process get out to farmers so that the technology can move from experimentation into full scale production.

I would like to clarify a misquote. It was stated that our company built an anaerobic digester for a 20,000 head cattle feedlot near Bartow, Florida. Lawrence Umstadter, the president of our company, worked as the project manager on that facility for Kaplan Industries, the feedlot owners. However, the system was designed and constructed by the Hamilton Standard Division of United Technologies, Windsor Lock, Conn. Funding for this project came from the U.S. Department of Energy, Kaplan Industries, and Hamilton Standard.

Elizabeth Coppinger, Vice President
Anaerobic Energy Systems
Box 1477
Bartow, Florida 33830

For only 50 cents, your readers can learn almost as much about high tensile fencing as is covered in the \$5.00 U.S. Steel book mentioned in Vol. 4, No. 4 (page 31) of FARM SHOW. Ask for bulletin NRAES-11 entitled "High Tensile Fencing". Interested readers can send their order and 50 cents to me.

Robert A. Parsons, Manager
Northwest Regional Ag Engineering Service
Riley-Robb Hall
Cornell University
Ithaca, N.Y. 14

Just finished reading Vol. 4, No. 5 of FARM SHOW and enjoyed it very much. It would appear, however, that

someone has given you a small piece of mis-information. You indicate that our new Deere Soybean Special planter features 4½ bu. seed hoppers when in reality these hoppers are 3 bu. in capacity. This is approximately double the capacity of the standard hopper.

Other features of our new planter include narrow 20-in. spacing with the option of two 30-in. tractor wheel skips. This lets farmers increase yields through narrow row cropping, yet permits mechanical cultivation in the event of an herbicide failure. Optional lift-assist wheels help carry the extra weight of the oversize hoppers and make over-the-road transport easier. Their frames can be used to carry tractor weights as planter ballast to improve penetration of the openers. Minimum tillage attachments are available for some reduced tillage and double cropping situations.

J.S. Payne
Product Information Manager
John Deere & Company
Waterloo, Iowa

I have just read an article in FARM SHOW (Vol. 4, No. 5) entitled "They're Turning Vegetable Oils Into Tractor Fuel". Alcohol and vegetable oils will not mix! Heating the oil and alcohol also will not cause them to mix. The reason oil must be heated is because of the viscosity of the oil. Heating reduces the viscosity, therefore the oil flows easier through the tractor fuel system.

Leonard L. Bashford
Extension Agricultural Engineer
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, Neb. 68583

We have had a tremendous amount of response to FARM SHOW's report on our Thomure muffler eliminator. Since your report, we have added muffler eliminators for the 2290, 2390, and 2590 Case tractors. The complete kit sells for \$151.40, including the stainless steel stack, chrome rain cap and chrome clamp. Also new are stainless steel stacks for the 40 series Deere tractors. Eliminators for the IH 3388 and 3588 are also available.

The FARM SHOW report correctly noted that a key advantage of the muffler eliminator is that it eliminates the problem of rust flaking off a corroded muffler and sitting down through the exhaust parts of a tractor engine, gaining entry into the valve and cylinder area. However, it should be pointed out that this does not apply to the 86

series International tractors on which the turbocharger is installed in a horizontal position.

Claud Thomure
Thomure Mfg.
Rt. 1
East Prairie, Mo. 63845

We enjoy FARM SHOW. However, we were not pleased with the "Sparrow Trap For Farm Buildings" article in the last (Vol. 4, No. 5) issue. We thought it was in very poor taste. We have more than our share of these pesty little birds because we feed and protect all birds. We object to this type of article and submit the following poem which expresses our thoughts. The poem is from the Tyrone Messenger, published by the Tyrone Presbyterian Church.

Ruthann Gordon
Dawson, Pa.

God's Sparrows

"I am only a little sparrow,
A bird of low degree,
My life is of little value,
But the dear Lord cares for me.
He gave me a coat of feathers,
'Tis very plain, I know,
With never a speck of crimson,
For it was not made for show.
But it keeps me warm in winter,
It shields me from the rain;
Were it bordered with gold and purple,
Perhaps it would make me vain.
I have no barn nor storehouse;
I never sow nor reap;
God gives me a sparrow's portion,
But never a seed to keep.
If my food is sometimes scanty,
Close pecking makes it sweet,
I have always enough to keep me,
And life is more than meat.
"I know there are many sparrows,
All over the world they're found;
But our Heavenly Father knoweth,
When one of us falls to the ground!"
-Unknown

I am tickled I subscribed to your magazine. It is the best thing I've bought in a long time!

Ronald Hill
Sweetwater, Texas

I read with interest the report in your last issue of FARM SHOW on the muffler eliminator for International tractors. We started making muffler eliminators in 1977. We sold four the first year and have since manufactured and sold more than 1,000 units.

Our muffler eliminators are fabricated of heavy gauge steel and generally last the lifetime of the tractor. One model for "86" IH tractors retails for \$103.24, and one for the "2 plus 2" 88 series retails for \$113.20.

Larry Lafferty
Larry's Radiator and Welding
Colfax, Iowa 50054
(ph 515 674-3621)

Editor's Note: Since last issue's article (Vol. 4, No. 5) on powering farm engines with soybean and other vegetable oils, many readers have asked for "where-to-buy" information on farm-size presses for extracting oils themselves. FARM SHOW has tracked down three companies making smaller extractors: Anderson IBEC, 19701 Progress Dr., Cleveland, Ohio 44136; The French Oil Mill Company, 1088 Greene St., Piqua, Ohio 45356; Henry Simon Inc., 2519 Madison, Kansas City, Mo., 64108 (ph 816 321-3793).

I really enjoy FARM SHOW magazine. It is very complete and always unpredictable.

Mark Oppold
Marion, Iowa

Do Your Friends A Favor!

Put them in touch with FARM SHOW. Just send us the names of neighbors, friends or relatives you think would like to see this new magazine regularly. We'll send them a *free* copy. We'll also tell them, with your permission, that it was you who suggested we send them the free copy. Be sure to include zip codes.

Yes, it's okay to tell each name below that: _____ asked us to send you this free copy of FARM SHOW magazine."

Send each of them an issue but don't use my name.

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4. _____
5. _____

Clip and Mail To: FARM SHOW Magazine,
Box 704, Lakeville, MN 55044

Don't Miss A Single Issue

Many new subscribers have asked if they can obtain back issues of FARM SHOW. The answer is yes.

We have a limited supply and are offering them on a first come, first serve basis. Here's what's available:

1977 — Two of the 6 charter-year issues (Vol. 1, No. 3, and Vol. 1, No. 4) are still available.
1978 — All 6 issues still available.

1979 — All 6 issues still available except one (Vol. 3, No. 5) which is sold out.

1980 — Back issues of previously-published issues for 1980 are still available (Vol. 4, No. 1; Vol. 4, No. 2; Vol. 4, No. 3; Vol. 4, No. 4; and Vol. 4, No. 5).

Send your check for \$1.00 per copy to: Back Issues, FARM SHOW Magazine, Box 704, Lakeville, Minn. 55044. Make your check payable to "FARM SHOW".